

## Sierra Leone Eligibility Requirements



In addition to being found suitable and eligible to adopt by USCIS, prospective adoptive parents seeking to adopt a child from Sierra Leone must meet the following requirements imposed by Sierra Leone:

- **Minimum Residency:** Under the 1989 Adoption Act and 2007 Child Rights Act, prospective adoptive parents are required to be resident in Sierra Leone for at least six consecutive months immediately preceding the granting of the adoption order. *(Unless an explicit waiver of the residency requirement is granted for the required 6 month guardianship period prior to adoption. This waiver is at the discretion of judges of the high court of Sierra Leone.)*
- **Age of Adopting Parents:** Unless related to the child, one of the prospective adoptive parents must be at least twenty-five years old and twenty-one years older than the child. A relative of the child need only be twenty-one years old.
- **Marriage:** Married couples may only adopt jointly. A single male may not adopt a child unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- **Minimum Income:** None

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption/Intercountry-Adoption-Country-Information/SierraLeone.html>